
Introduced by Senator Gaines
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Bigelow)

August 4, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 139—Relative to the Eugene “Gene” Chappie Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 139, as introduced, Gaines. Eugene “Gene” Chappie Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway 193 in El Dorado County as the Eugene “Gene” Chappie Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Eugene “Gene” Chappie was a long-time El Dorado
2 County resident and rancher who dedicated his life to serving his
3 county, his state, his country, and the American people; and
4 WHEREAS, Gene Chappie was born on March 28, 1920, in
5 Sacramento. After graduating from high school in 1938, he joined
6 the United States Army and was promoted to the rank of Captain
7 while serving in the Pacific Theater during World War II, and later
8 returned to serve his country again during the Korean War; and
9 WHEREAS, In 1950, Governor Earl Warren appointed Gene
10 Chappie to a vacant seat on the El Dorado County Board of
11 Supervisors, where he served and represented the residents of the
12 4th Supervisorial District until he was elected to the State Assembly

1 in 1964, where he served and represented the residents of the 6th
2 Assembly District; and

3 WHEREAS, During his tenure in the Legislature, Gene Chappie
4 served as Chair of the Welfare Committee from 1967 to 1969, and
5 Chair of the Assembly Rules Committee from 1969 to 1971. He
6 pioneered legislation in the area of eliminating architectural barriers
7 for the handicapped, and authored measures with a more direct
8 bearing on his district, including legislation regulating the safety
9 and use of snowmobiles and efforts to introduce planning concepts
10 into the Lake Tahoe basin; and

11 WHEREAS, Gene Chappie was elected to the United States
12 House of Representatives in 1980, where he served and represented
13 the residents of the 1st and 3rd Congressional Districts. During
14 his six years in Congress, he served on the Agriculture Committee,
15 the Small Business Committee, the Merchant Marine and Fisheries
16 Committee, and the Select Committee on Drugs and Narcotics
17 Abuse. He announced his retirement in 1986 and returned to his
18 family's ranch in Cool, California; and

19 WHEREAS, Governor George Deukmejian appointed Gene
20 Chappie in 1987 to the California Off Highway Motor Vehicle
21 Recreation Commission, where he served until 1992; and

22 WHEREAS, Governor George Deukmejian appointed Gene
23 Chappie in 1988 to a vacant seat on the El Dorado County Board
24 of Supervisors, returning him once again to represent the
25 constituents of the 4th Supervisorial District until 1991; and

26 WHEREAS, Gene Chappie served on various boards and
27 commissions. President Ronald Reagan appointed him to the
28 President's Architectural Transportation Barriers Compliance
29 Board. At the state level, he served on the Commission on the
30 Status of Women, the Commission of the Californians, and the
31 Heritage Preservation Commission; and

32 WHEREAS, Gene Chappie was a founder of the Mountain
33 Counties Water Resources Association, the Georgetown Divide
34 Public Utility District, and was one of the original organizers and
35 supporters of the Jeepers Jamboree. He was a member of the Rotary
36 Club, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the
37 Pilot Hill Grange, the Native Sons of the Golden West, the El
38 Dorado County Farm Bureau, the Elks, and the Holy Name Society;
39 and

1 WHEREAS, Gene Chappie passed away on May 31, 1992, at
2 72 years of age at his home in Georgetown, California; and

3 WHEREAS, In recognition of Gene Chappie's four decades of
4 service to the citizens of El Dorado County and the State of
5 California, it is fitting to designate a portion of State Highway 193
6 in his honor; now, therefore, be it

7 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
8 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
9 portion of State Highway 193 from State Highway 49 to Cramer
10 Road in El Dorado County as the Eugene "Gene" Chappie
11 Memorial Highway; and be it further

12 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
13 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the
14 signing requirements for the state highway system showing this
15 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
16 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
17 further

18 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
19 this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author
20 for appropriate distribution.